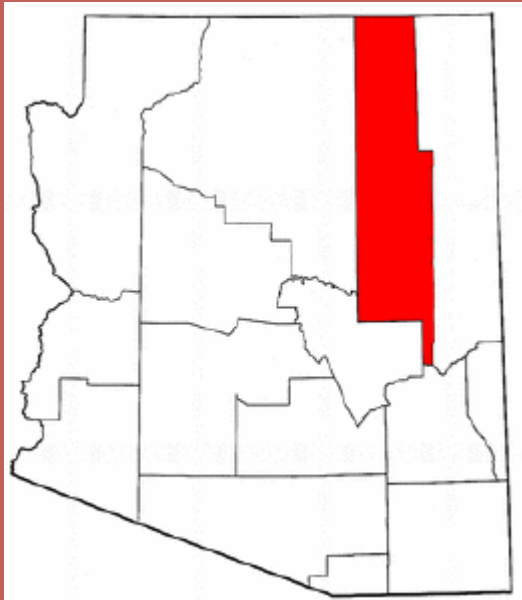


Flu Season 2004/05: A Crisis Averted in Navajo County



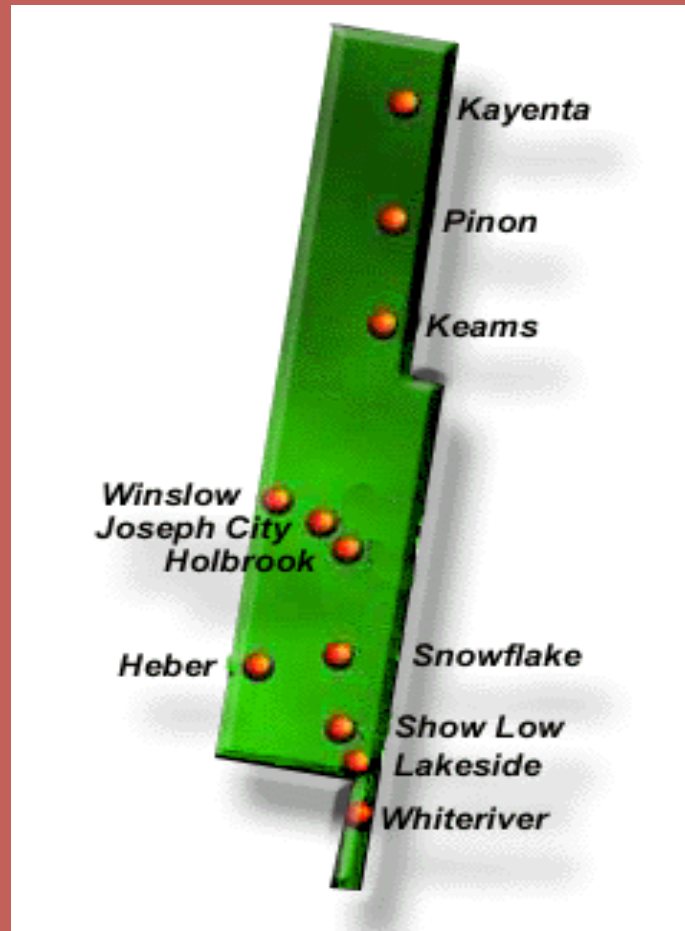
Experiences from Northeastern Arizona

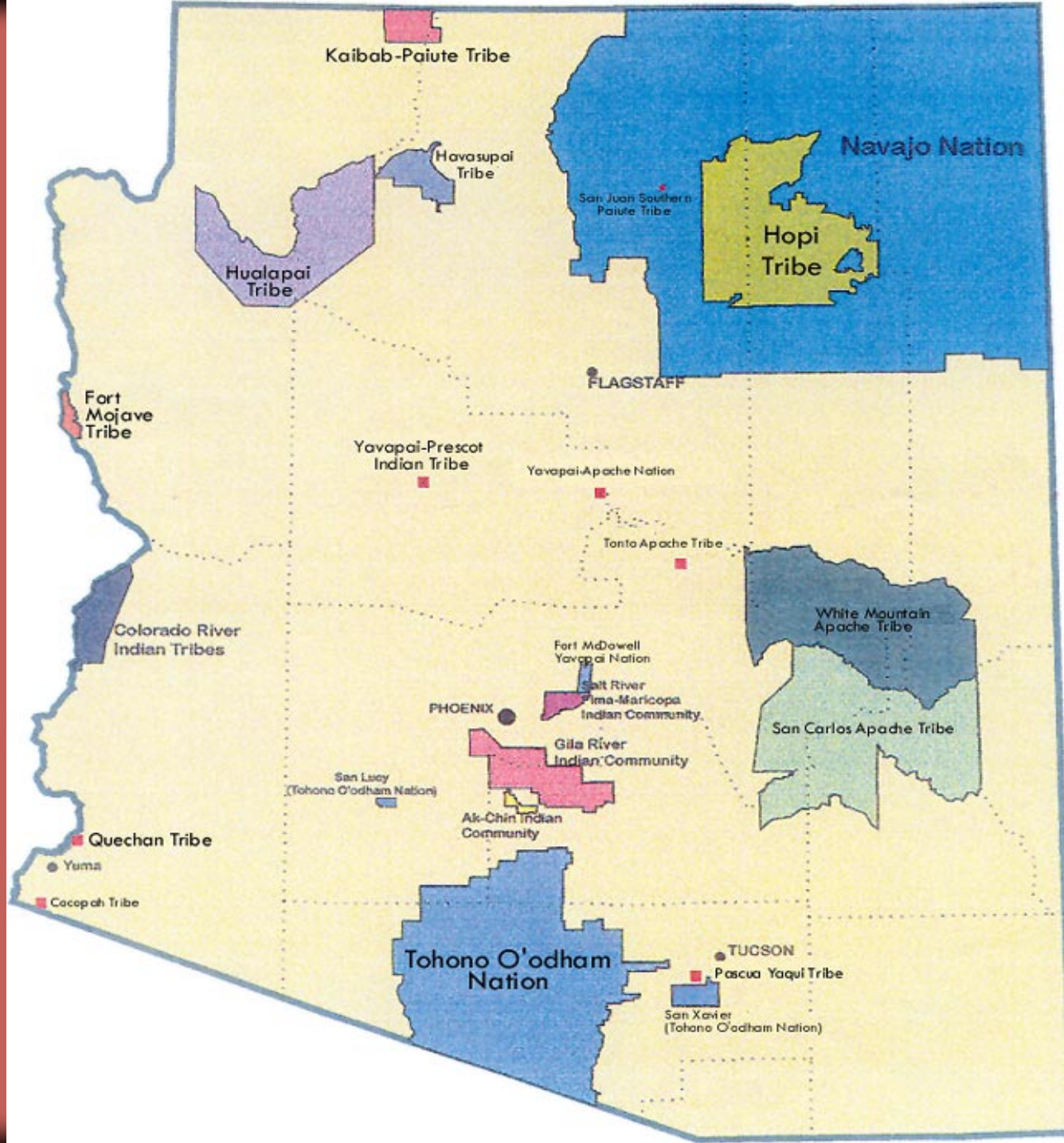
Kevin Neill, MPH

Bioterrorism Coordinator

Navajo County Public Health Services District

Navajo County, Arizona





Historical Framework

- Health Department's decreasing role as flu shot provider in the County.
- Majority of shots furnished by Private Providers.
- Reduced number of Public Health Nurses

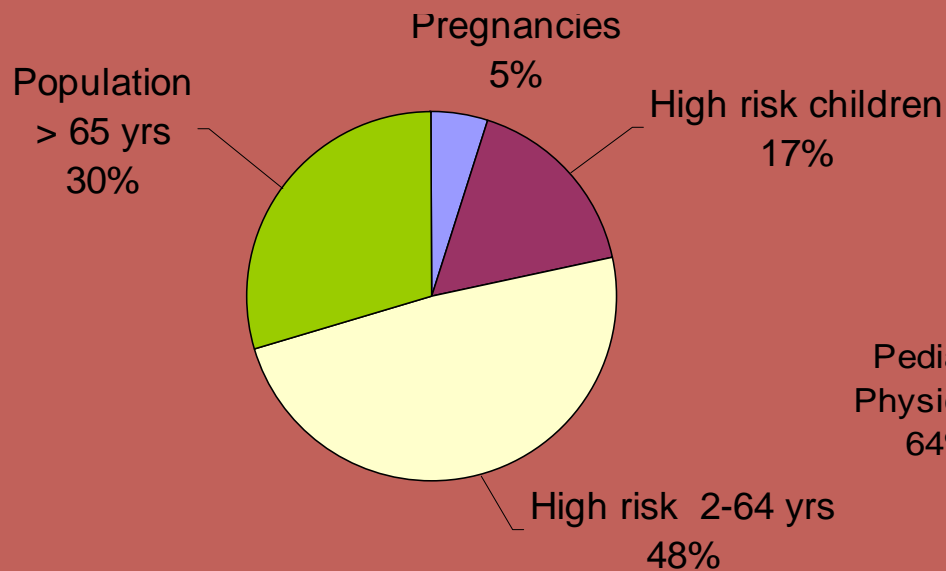
Enter the Flu Vaccine Crisis...



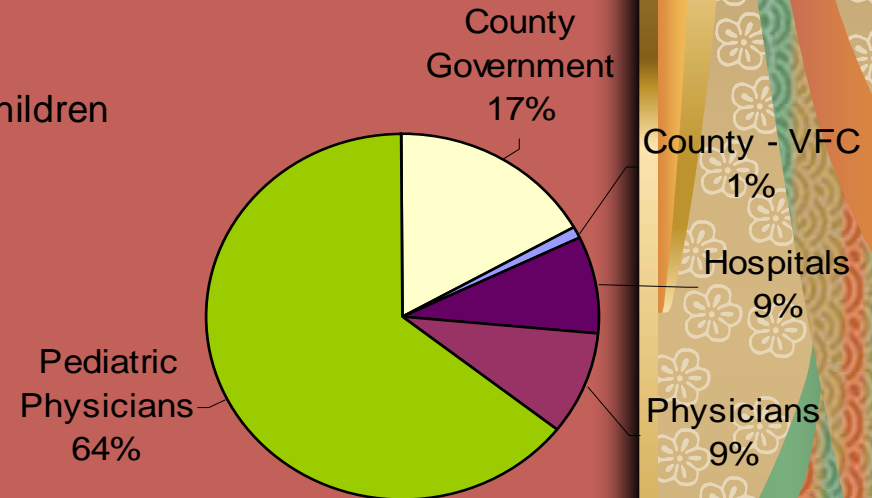
Where Did We begin?

- Health Director called a meeting of BT and PHN to organize and schedule flu shot clinics.
- Asked: Who HAS vaccine? Who will GET vaccine?
- Began to identify high-risk groups in the County.

Navajo County



Estimated High Risk Populations
n = 35,040



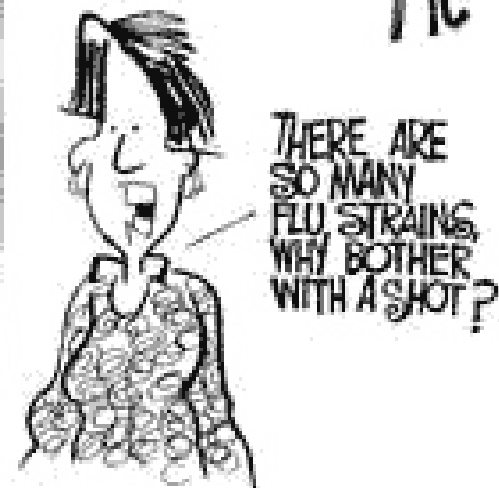
Influenza Vaccine Purchasers, 2004
n = 7,960



1999



2000



2001



2002



2003



2004

Our Initial Concerns

- Developing our vaccination plan:
 - How to utilize limited staff?
 - How to notify vaccine candidates from the County population?
 - Geographic layout of our county (2/3 Sovereign Indian Nations)
 - Budget issues (who will pay?)



Meeting the Initial Challenges

- Decision made to hold vaccination clinics at County Health Department sites on November 29th & 30th.
- BT Program began to organize logistics of clinics.
- County made the decision to provide flu shots at no cost to the public.

Coordinating the Service

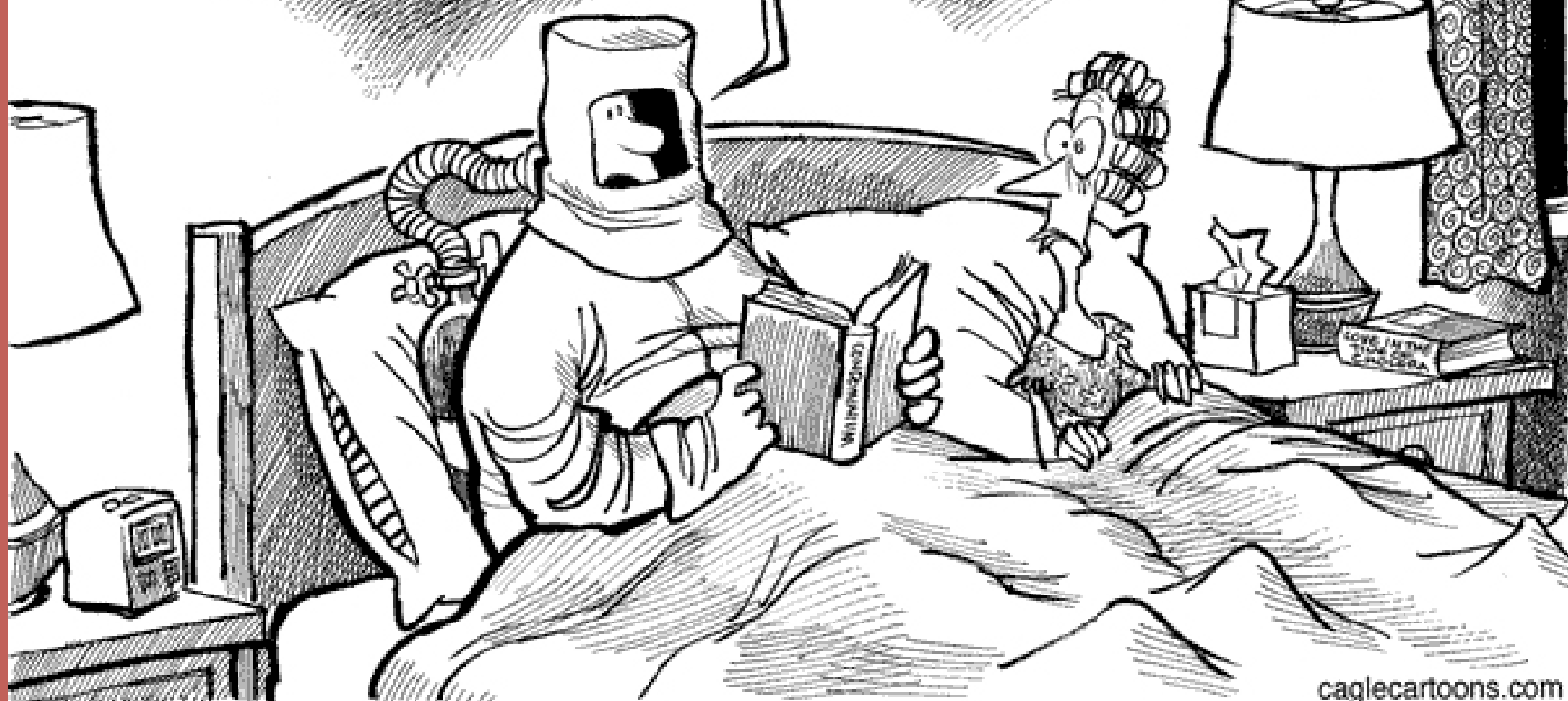
- County waited for arrival of vaccine before implementing plans.
- First shipment of 330 doses were given to long-term care and nursing home residents. 1,270 more doses followed.
- County clerical staff began to make telephone calls to arrange patient arrival at clinics (blocks of 40 @ ½ hour intervals).

JEFF
DARKER

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...BETTER GET USED
TO IT. I'M NOT TAKING
OFF THIS GETUP UNTIL THE
SHORTAGE OF FLU VACCINE
IS RESOLVED...



caglecartoons.com

Dean Martin
reveals he
never had flu
p. 16

*** THE ***
UNDERGROUND STAR
We scratch 'n' sniff for the news.

The
Morning
After
Edition

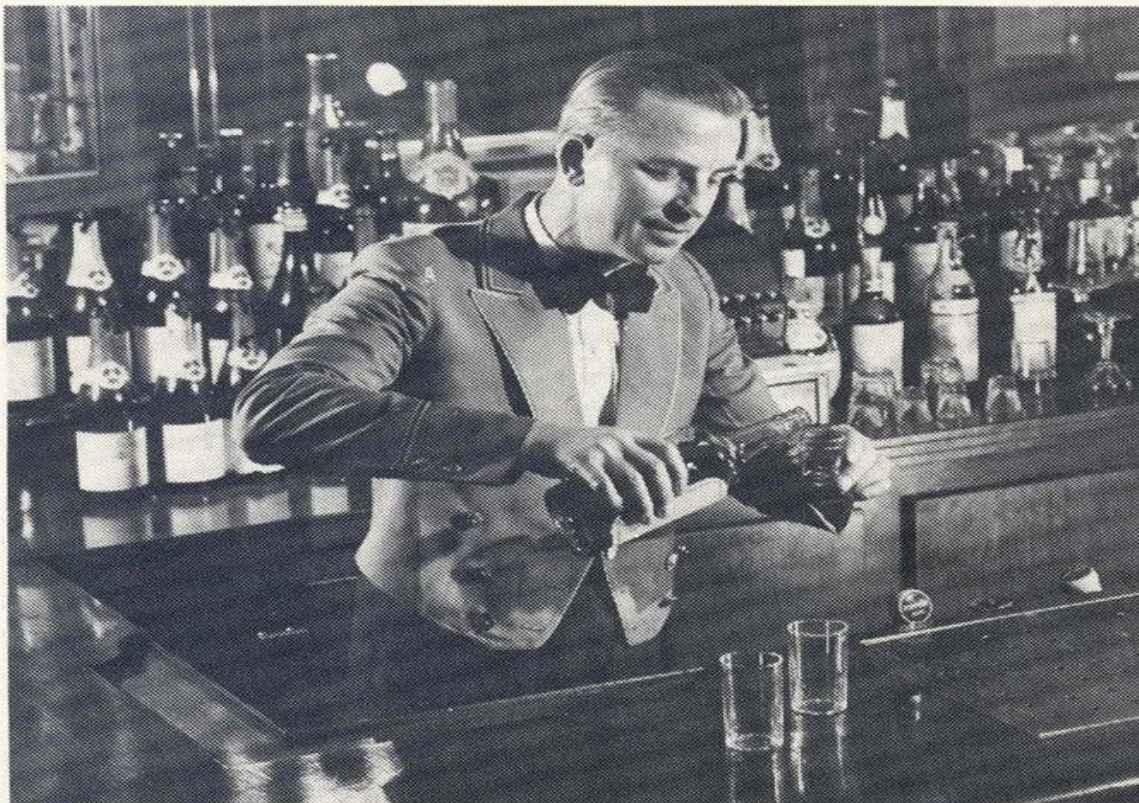
VOL. CCXXVMVIII

SEVEN PARTS

LARGEST CIRCULATION

DAILY



EXCLUSIVE
S'TRAIGHT WHISKEY
KILLS FLU VIRUS
BARTENDERS NOW REQUIRED TO HAVE PHARMACY DEGREE



Bartender celebrates news.

Distribution/Administration

Challenges

-  Needed to avoid a “Clinic from hell” scenario (confidentiality issues, crowding in hallways); solved by advance assessment of sites.
-  Plan devised to control patient flow by having stations (e.g., registration, waiting).

Flu shots: Stuck waiting their turn for vaccine

12/19/03 Okla. Front Page



BY JIM BECKEL, THE OKLAHOMAN

With several hundred free influenza shots available on Thursday, people seeking vaccinations filled the waiting room at Oklahoma City-County Health Department. About an hour's wait was required. On the right are Carmen Barton of Oklahoma City with her 2-year-old granddaughter, Suzi-Jo Steele. Flu shots will be available today from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Latino Community Development Center, 420 SW 10. **Related story, Page 20A.**

GRONDAHL STANDARD EXAMINER



"We're out of flu shots! If you're afraid to die, take these antidepressants!"

Results

- 2,100 doses of adult vaccine and 100 doses of pediatric vaccine were provided to County residents at no charge.
- By pre-planning, the average total time (entry to exit) for each patient getting a shot was less than 10 minutes.

Results, continued

- Strengthened communication and collaboration between health district staff and programs.
- The Health District and County management received high marks from the public.
- The total vaccine cost to the County was \$15,522.

Lessons Learned

- Earlier planning
- Involve other health programs and their staffs in the planning and organization
- Flexibility is key.

And the County BT Program prepares for next year...

